GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4297
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2003
QUALITY OF TAP WATER
BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quality of tap water in the major cities in the country meets with standards specified in European Council Directives;

(b) if not, the variation in relation to each parameter set in European Council Directives;

(c) the short and long term impact on human health as a result thereof; and

(d) the remedial measures proposed by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (d) Drinking Water Supply being a state subject, it is the responsibility of the State Governments / UrbanLocal Bodies to provide safe / potable drinking water to the population living in urban areas after treating surface / ground water. The water utilities / authorities responsible for providing drinking water are required to adhere to the standards for physical, chemical and bacteriological parameters of drinking water indicated in the Bureau of Indian Standards' specification on Drinking Water as laid down in IS 10500:1991. The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is theagency at the National Level for setting up of Standards for DrinkingWater. When the standards prescribed by BIS are strictly adhered to by Water Supply Agencies including Urban Local Bodies there should not be any adverse impact on human health.